



EV 459414913

PATENT
Practitioner's Docket No. SST/1035

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: William F. Leek

Conf. No. 5971

Application No.: 09/729,491

Group No.: 3637

Filed: December 3, 2000

Examiner: A, Phi Dieu Tran

For: Automatic Take-Up Device with Internal Spring

MAIL STOP RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant submits herewith patents, publications or other information, of which Applicant is aware that Applicant believes may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose. The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

This information disclosure statement is accompanied by Form PTO/SB/08 (formerly Form PTO-1449) and legible copies of all cited patent documents (references A1 – A3) and non-patent literature listed in said form (references C1-C5).

The non-patent references are documents showing the inventions of another, Alfred D. Commins, prior to the date of conception by William F. Leek of the invention that is the subject of the present application.

The person making this certification is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of the information supplied by the inventor(s) and in the practitioner's file.

As far as is known to the undersigned, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application, within three months of the date of entry of the national state in an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), and therefore no fee is required. While no fee is believed to be due, if this belief is in error the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees, including extension fees or other relief which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-4075 (Our Order No. 1035).

Respectfully submitted,

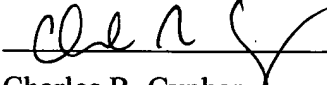
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Attachments: Form PTO/SB/08 (2 pgs)
3 cited patent references (A1- A3)
5 cited non-patent references (C1-C5)

EV 459414913

MODIFIED PTO/SB/8A (08-00)

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number 09/729,491
Filing Date 12-03-2000
First Named Inventor William F. Leek
Group Art Unit 3637
Examiner Name A, Phi Dieu Tran
Attorney Docket Number SST/1035

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	A1	US- 6,161,350	12-19-2000	Espinosa, Thomas M.	
	A2	US- 6,494,654	12-17-2002	Espinosa, Thomas M.	
	A3	US- 6,688,058	2-10-2004	Espinosa, Thomas M.	
	A4	US-			
	A5	US-			
	A6	US-			
	A7	US-			
	A8	US-			
	A9	US-			
	A10	US-			
	A11	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ² Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
	B1					
	B2					
	B3					
	B4					
	B5					
	B6					

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
	C1	Automatic Take-Up Device by Alfred D. Commings, dated 2/10/1998 (5 pages)	
	C2	Automatic Take-Up Device by Alfred D. Commings, dated 8/15/1996 (7 pages)	
	C3	Automatic Take-Up Device by Alfred D. Commings, dated 3/6/1996 (3 pages)	
	C4	Automatic Take-Up Device by Alfred D. Commings, dated 3/6/1996 and 1/25/1996 (5 pages)	
	C5	Automatic Take-Up Device by Alfred D. Commings, dated 12/26/1995 (3 pages)	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.

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